

DOUGLAS FAMILY

AMIE U. DOUGLAS

SUBJECT FILES

Obituaries

2303.24

Box 6

File 33

2 Roll on thou deep + dark blue
Castled crag of Drachenfels
Thy name is Caer on the Grampian
Ringing out, ~~world~~ bells

3 If your waking call me early
To be or not to be.
The carol must not sound to me
Oh woodman spare that tree

4 Charge Chester charge On Stanley
And let who will be drest
The bay stood on the burning deck
But I go on forever -

1 My beautiful my beautiful
That standest proudly by
It was the schooner Hesperus
The angry waves rolled high.

Further Reminiscence

When I can hold this stone, feel the beat
and pulse of Time that made it whole,
Crystallized by crystal from a magma old, it is
As layers by layers from ancient hills washed down,
When I can see it pass again to soil,
In scores of years or many a thousand score,
And harbor's seed + feed it into life -
Then shall I have the wisdom to behold
No end in death - The pageant march
of Change

Let loose of Nature. 'Tis not time
That stick + stone, yeast blood + bone,
The human spirit behind the ^{living} ~~living~~ ^{mind} ~~mind~~
Change but to reappear ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{other} ~~other~~ ^{forms} ~~forms~~

Thoughts to the ^{of} ~~master~~ ^{Thinker}
as He ^{master} ~~smiles~~ ^{smiles}.

Just ~~born~~ ^{made in} the Province of Quebec School Leaving
Exams in ~~June~~ 1912 and entered honours mathematics
and physics at McGill University in Sept 1912. Went
overseas in Sept 1915. Senior statistics clerk in War
Office and Ministry of National Service 1916-18
Registrar Khaki University of Canada in London 1918-19.
Returned to McGill Sept 1919. Graduated BA with
Molson Gold Medal ~~May~~ 1920; M.Sc. 1921; Ph.D. 1926.
Studied under Rutherford and Eddington in
Cambridge 1921-23. ^{Research Assistant at Yerkes Observatory 1925 Summer.} Lectured in physics and
astronomy at McGill 1923-39. ~~Resided~~

Sec-Treas. Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
(^{Appointed convenor of Fellowship award Committee of both Can. + Brit. Fed. of U.S.}
Montreal Centre) 1924-39. ^{Lectured widely to many addresses}
societies and groups in Canada and Europe and
wrote astronomical scientific research papers,
also ^{astronomical} ~~popular science~~ articles for Discovery,
Atlantic Monthly and other journals and
two articles for Hibbert Journal. Moved to
Kingston to become Dean of Women 1939-
59 and Professor of Astronomy 1943-63.

Membership in three international

bodies (International Astronomical Union, International Union for History and Philosophy of Science, International Federation of University Women) each holding biennial conferences, led to summer travel to their conferences on
1. five continents and to South America as a delegate to The 1954 Unesco Conference in Montevideo. Recent travels ^{have} included China, Afghanistan and Iran.

~~Whole~~ ^{Whole} biography by Arthur Stanley Eddington, was published by (Thomas Nelsons in Edinburgh in 1956); and chapter on Scientific Writings for Literary History of Canada (Toronto 1965); articles on Eddington for four Encyclopediae.

John Alexander Vibert Douglas was
born in ^{Halifax in} 1934 and died, aged 37, in
Ottawa on ~~July~~ June 18, 1971. He was
the younger son of the late Professor
George Vibert Douglas ^{and Mrs Olga Douglas. His father} first Carnegie
Professor of Geology at Dalhousie
University, a position he held for
twenty ~~five~~ years.

John graduated from Dalhousie
in 1955. He directed a survey party
in Cape Breton for some time, ~~then~~
entered Exeter College, Oxford in
1957 when he made petrological
studies of rocks from the east coast
of Greenland, a complex area north
of the Arctic Circle. For this work,
in which he was able to reverse the
previously accepted age order of the
rocks collected by Professor Wager
and his associates, and rocks
later collected by John himself,

he was awarded the D.Phil. in 1961.

After two years more in Oxford as Research Assistant to Prof. Wager, John returned to Canada working for one year with the Quebec Geological Survey and then with the Geological Survey of Canada.*

Thus he made his home in Ottawa with his wife and ~~the~~^{their} three children.

* ~~that~~ He was in charge of the meteorite collection which he classified and catalogued with annotations.

When NASA offered to loan specimens and thin sections of rocks from the Apollo XI collection of lunar samples, John drew up a programme of study involving several members of the Survey. His own ~~studies~~ petrological studies led to important results, including the identification of a mineral not found in that particular form terrestrially. This work was very demanding due to the NASA

deadline for the reports at the ^{historic} ~~great~~ Houston meeting where John reported for himself and his associates in a paper subsequently printed in a special issue of Science.

This was followed by intensive work on the Apollo XII rocks in 1970.

John resigned from the Survey in the summer of 1970 to accept an Associate Professorship at the University of Ottawa; but overwork had undermined his health. He will be remembered for his great conscientiousness, ^{his} ~~his~~ ~~time~~ ~~stealing~~ ~~character~~ ~~definitely~~ ~~with~~ ~~wood~~ ~~or~~ ~~metal~~ ~~or~~ ~~electric~~ ~~circuits~~ ~~or~~ ~~microscope~~ and for his gentle helpful personality. His scientific colleagues mourn the loss of an able scientist.